

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 04098 310630Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7781
INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 4098

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD. ID
SUBJ: USITC REQUEST FO DATA ON WATCHES

REF: A) STATE 18602(NOTAL); B) (77) JAKARTA 00531(NOTAL)

1. INDONESIAN WATCH INDUSTRY IS NOT A FACTOR IN INTER-
NATIONAL TRADE. THERE ARE NOT LOCAL MANUFACTURERS, ONLY
ASSEMBLERS. SINCE 1967-8 WHEN THE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC
INVESTMENT LAWS WERE DECREED FOR INVESTMENTS--TWO
DOMESTIC AND TWO FOREIGN-- FOR WATCH ASSEMBLY HAVE BEEN
APPROVED. ONE OF THESE ASSEMBLED IN EXCESS OF 400,000
WATCHES, APPARENTLY ALL OF THE CONVENTIONAL VARIETY, LAST
YEAR, BUT THE OTHER THREE HAVE NEVER BEGUN PRODUCTION.
FOUR OTHER TIME INSTRUMENT ASSEMBLY OPERATIONS
PREDATE 1967 AND DO NOT REPORT PRODUCTION STATISTICS TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES. WE WERE ABLE TO LEARN THAT
THE TWO IN JAKARTA PRODUCED LAST YEAR 100,000 CONVENTIONAL
WATCHES AND 7,200 WALL CLOCKS RESPECTIVELY. WE WERE
UNABLE TO OBTAIN PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR THE TWO
LOCATED OUTSIDE JAKARTA BUT DOUBT THAT THEY ARE SIG-
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NIFICANT.

2. THERE WERE NO EXPORTS OF WATCHES FROM INDONESIA
THROUGH NOVEMBER 1977. EXPORTS FOR THE PREVIOUS
TWO YEARS WERE \$1102 AND \$2029, RESPECTIVELY.

3. ACCORDING TO THE CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS, IMPORTS OF WATCHES AND PARTS LAST YEAR TOTALED \$3,859,530, OF WHICH PARTS WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN ONLY \$435,381. IN VIEW OF THE FACTS THAT 100 PERCENT OF WATCH COMPONENTS ARE IMPORTED AND THAT THERE WERE AN ESTIMATED 500,000 PLUS WATCHES ASSEMBLED HERE LAST YEAR, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE FIGURE FOR IMPORT OF PARTS IS GROSSLY INACCURATE.

4. MAJOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE INDONESIAN WATCH INDUSTRY OVER THE PAST YEAR IS THE GOVERNMENT APPROVAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE NEW WATCH FACTORIES. IN EACH CASE A PROMINENT INDONESIAN IS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A FOREIGN FIRM (ENICAL OF SWITZERLAND, LOTUS OF SOUTH KOREA AND AN UNNAMED FIRM FROM HONG KONG). NONE OF THE THREE IS YET IN PRODUCTION, BUT ANY OR ALL OF THEM HOLD POTENTIAL FOR HAVING A SIZEABLE IMPACT ON THE INDONESIAN WATCH INDUSTRY.
MASTERS

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